

FOREIGN MEDICAL PROGRAM POLICY MANUAL

CHAPTER: 2
SECTION: 13
TITLE: NURSING HOME CARE

AUTHORITY: PL 104-204; 38 USC 1724; 38 CFR 17.35

I. DEFINITIONS

A. Nursing home care accommodates convalescents or other persons who are not in need of hospital care and who do not require skilled nursing care or rehabilitative services.

B. A skilled nursing facility (SNF) is a community nursing home which provides care prescribed by, or performed under the general direction of a physician, and provides nursing, rehabilitative, dietetic, pharmaceutical, laboratory, radiological, social, and spiritual services to the patient.

C. An intermediate care facility is a community nursing home which provides health care services on a regular basis to individuals who, because of their physical or mental conditions, require such care and services, above the level of room and board, as provided in a domiciliary, but do not require the intensity or frequency of such services as provided in a skilled nursing facility.

D. Custodial care is provided to an individual who:

1. is disabled mentally or physically and such disability is expected to continue and be prolonged,
2. requires a protected, monitored, or controlled environment whether in an institution or in the home,
3. requires assistance to support the essentials of daily living, and
4. is not under active and specific medical, surgical, or psychiatric treatment that will reduce the disability to the extent necessary to enable the patient to function outside the protected, monitored, or controlled environment.

II. POLICY

A. A skilled nursing facility is covered when the patient's condition requires a level of medical care that cannot be provided in a home setting and does not meet the requirements for hospital admission.

B. The following services may be covered in a skilled nursing facility:

1. nursing care,
2. medications,
3. supplies,
4. DME not ordinarily provided,
5. rehabilitation services,
6. physical therapy,
7. speech therapy,
8. occupational therapy, and
9. osteopathic and chiropractic manipulative therapy.

III. EXCLUSIONS

- A. Custodial care.
- B. Adult day care.
- C. Nursing home care.
- D. Intermediate care facilities.

END OF POLICY